

Examiners Chakrabarti and Zitomer indicated that in light of the withdrawal of the above rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103, they want to enter a new rejection of the claims under *Southern et al.* and *Macevicz et al.* under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Thus, as this new rejection has not been discussed in detail in the outstanding Office Action or been entered against the claims as pending, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide Applicants with a Supplemental Office Action. Applicants request that this Supplemental Office Action provide a detailed explanation as to why the cited references purportedly anticipate the claims, as well as which claims the rejections apply to.

Applicants also note that pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 710.06, when a supplementary action is issued explaining the references more explicitly, even though no further references are cited, a new date is established from which the statutory period runs. Thus Applicants request that the a new time period for response be set starting from the mail date of the Supplemental Office Action.

Application Serial No. 09/341,641
Attorney's Docket No. 020600-280

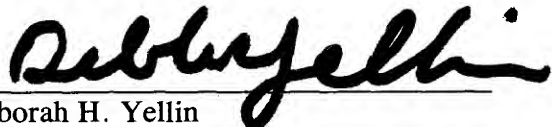
CONCLUSION

In the event that there are any questions relating to this Reply, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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